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COUNTRY Brazil

SUBJECT Communist Activities in the State of  
Minas Gerais

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1. The Corpo de Segurança (Security Corps), a group composed of Communists selected for their fearlessness and hatred of the authorities, forms a nucleus for Communist violence in the State of Minas Gerais. Its members are always armed, chiefly with a Walther-type revolver of Czech manufacture. The organizer and director of the Corpo de Segurança, Marco Antonio, (1) one of the "Big Three" of the Communist Party of Brazil (PCB) in Minas, (2) works constantly for the Party and goes to all parts of the state frequently. The real leader of the Corpo, however, is Antonio's right-hand man, Avelino Alencar. The latter is responsible for organizing all Party violence and for providing suitable security for meetings. A light mulatto, about 27 years of age, Alencar lives with several other Communists at rua Timbiras, 1832, in Belo Horizonte and works full time for the PCB often going to the Minas Triangle.
2. The Minas Triangle is very important to the PCB, reportedly being the focal point of all Party efforts in this part of the country. Because of its strategic location, the Party, from headquarters in Sao Paulo, is able to direct operations covering a wide territory in Minas Gerais, Goias, and Mato Grosso. Large supplies of arms are being stored in the Triangle for the purpose of arming farm workers and share croppers at a suitable time in the future.
3. The PCB is trying to strengthen its membership among Minas farm workers and share croppers through the Associação de Camponeses (Association of Farm Workers) in preparation for a state-wide strike. Dr. Orlando Bonfim Junior, (3) assisted by Pedro Tavares (3) and Rui Mezker, agitators, is in charge of this work.
4. The Associação de Camponeses is particularly strong in the Minas Triangle, where it is reported to be heavily infiltrated by the Communists, who are building up hatred against the Vargas Government among the workers, on the grounds that Vargas will not fulfill his campaign promise to provide an agrarian reform law. For example, in and around the municipality of Capinopolis, the Associação has approximately 600 Communist members, led by its Vice-President, Edmundo Pimento. Other leading Communists in the organization are as follows:

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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

Gasparino Claudiano  
 Trimeia Ferreira da Conceição  
 Rubim Felício de Freitas  
 Ramon Luiz Gonzaga  
 Francisca (sic) Neves de Jesus  
 Geronimo Antonio de Lima  
 Jose Theodoro Lima  
 Dumonta Santos  
 Joao Gregorio dos Santos

Jurandir Afonso Santos  
 Luiz Gregorio dos Santos  
 Orivaldo Ferreira dos Santos  
 Valter Ferreira dos Santos  
 Antonio Fagundes de Souza  
 Geronimo Moura de Souza  
 Nadir Fagundes de Souza  
 Sebastiao Vieira

5. The farm workers' strike is planned to coincide with a state-wide strike of of transport and factory workers. Communist agents have completed preparations for a strike on the Vitoria Minas Railroad of the Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, an important line for the transportation of minerals, which is being improved by United States-controlled interests. The disruption of service on this line is a primary target of the PCB.
6. In Araguari, a municipality likewise in the Minas Triangle, PCB has achieved considerable success, particularly through the efforts of Jose Gabriel Pereira and his assistant, Joao Miranda. Pereira, an accomplished Communist agitator, is confining his agitation activities to the railroad workers of the Estrada de Ferro de Goias.
7. PCB activities in and around the towns of Uberaba and Uberlandia in the Minas Triangle are being intensified. The Party receives generous financial contributions from this area and controls several large fazendas here. Some of the fazendas have airfields from which planes are reported to make unauthorized flights to other countries, as well as to other parts of Brazil, on behalf of the Party. Regular flights are reportedly made to Mexico from one of these fields.
8. The Belo Horizonte Communist daily Jornal do Povo, (3) which circulates throughout the state, appears regularly and compares favorably with other local papers, despite the fact that it operates at a loss. Orlando Bonfim Junior is responsible for keeping the paper in circulation. In this work his most active helpers are the following:
  - Helio Adjuto Botelho, general manager
  - Fernando Rezende, young Communist journalist
  - Hudson Fonseca, feature writer
  - Pena Brasil, writer and a Communist for many years
  - Luiz Soares, one of the directors of the Movimento Ajuda da Imprensa Democratica (Movement to Aid the Democratic Press--MAID), (3) in charge of collecting large sums for the Jornal
  - Ladislau Pereira, distributor of the Jornal in Raposos and several adjoining towns.
9. Youth activities have recently been emphasized by the PCB in the state. One of the most effective and vociferous of the youth groups is the Departamento Juvenil do Movimento Mineiro pela Paz (Youth Department of the Minas Peace Movement), which has been collecting signatures in support of the Stockholm Peace Appeal, its goal being 60,000 signatures in Belo Horizonte. Recently the group held a noisy meeting in front of the Belo Horizonte Municipal Chamber to protest against war and Yankee imperialism.

- 1) Cf. [REDACTED]
- 2) The other two are Armando Ziller and Orlando Bonfim Junior
- 3) Cf. [REDACTED]

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